

# Roberts Elementary PTO Board Meeting

Friday, May 2, 2014

8:10 a.m. Roberts Cafe

In attendance: Ali Pilcher, Aliya Walji, Anjum Khan, Camille Jenman, Chris Johnson, Courtney Tardy, Elizabeth Singleton, Emanuela Corradino, Emilie Heo, Jenny Johnson, Kara Niles, Kelly Wehrer, Kirsty McCormack, Lara Frazier, Lauren Bloomquist, Lori Bullwinkle, Meredith Beebe, Paige Castaneda, Phaedra Harbaugh, and others

Meeting Called to Order	Courtney Tardy
School Report	Rita Graves
Approval of Minutes	Kara Niles
Treasurer's Report	Alyson Rooney
Committee Chairs	Kelly Wehrer
Carnival	Jenny Johnson
Teacher Appreciation	Jennifer Thornton
School Supplies	Jennifer Thornton
Audit Committee - Call for Volunteers	Courtney Tardy
Year End Thank You	Courtney Tardy
Adjourn	Courtney Tardy

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Meeting Called to Order	Courtney Tardy
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8:10 am.

Approval of Minutes	Kara Niles
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Kara Niles, Recording Secretary, presented the minutes from the April meeting for approval. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Emanuela Corradino and seconded by Liz Singleton. A vote was taken and the motion passed. All in favor - Aye

Treasurer's Report	Alyson Rooney
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Please get your stuff to me as quick as possible. Please allow for extra time. Things go slower this time of year. If you are doing a check request, please provide some backing information.

We have a surplus of \$80K. PTO Board we will have a special allocations meeting to discuss this, once Carnival is over

## School Report

Rita Graves

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Student Coalition members from 5<sup>th</sup> grade are here to tell us about what they are doing.

Kids: “We are trying to stamp out the small amount of bullying at our school, we made the peace bench for kids who feel lonely.

SC is fun because you know you are helping people.

SC gives us a voice to step up and say what we think.

We have meetings, yesterday we made announcements about gossip and bullying. We will get the message out. We cover a lot of topics, gossip, spreading rumors

I like doing the announcements because it gives us a chance to work with kids in younger grades. I like informing them about bullying.”

Graves - Yesterday you were coaching with the younger coalition members as you will be leaving.

Kids: “We try to be role models. It makes us proud and happy that kids care about what we are doing”

Graves - They are a tremendous group. There are about 40 kids serving on the student coalition, last year it was one rep from a class. This year, we keep on those who were with us last year if they want to continue. They help us determine the hotspots on the playground - where bullying or inappropriate behavior occurs. It's for 3<sup>d</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

They are invited or nominated by their teachers. We look for kids who are natural leaders among their peers. This doesn't mean they do everything right, but they are good kids at heart and care about others.

Second thing I wanted to talk about: School Performance Update. The Achievement Data 2013-14 ranking, the Children At Risk study.

We had positive gain from 13-14 in virtually every area. There is not a significant shift, but a particular gain in advanced performance. We see gains from grade to grade, and from child to child.

Growth index - There is a big gap between us and Twain. I called Children At Risk and asked: If our gain scores are the same, how are our scores so different? We have a composite index score that is similar to Twain and Bush.

They explained - "We have discovered a discrepancy in the growth calculation. Please apologize to your school community"

Graves - We expect them to explain this to the district and to amend things before they publish again.

Other business:

Fine Arts night next week, Kinder graduation , Aladdin

Stanford testing - it will be held all week long and schedules will vary by grade level. We only have a week to test on 7 subtests. 4<sup>th</sup> graders need this for middle school applications. We prioritize make-ups on who needs the scores the most.

Read the blog to keep track of the things coming up.

Q What's the difference between Stanford and STAAR ?

A Different middle schools use either STAAR or Stanford. Stanford is used for the G&T matrix, so it is for entry to vanguard for middle school. STAAR - Will be taken on May 21. Then we draw up the student reports.

Stanford and STAAR are used to make decisions for promotion for next grade level. If your child does not pass STAAR, they will need to take summer school. We will contact you directly if that is the case.

News:

We will have a Spanish teacher come back next year. Spanish will go back into the ancillary rotation. Science will become a co-teach.

Faculty - three teachers leaving: Hernandez, Cartes is going overseas, and Savarese will go to Emory Wiener.

We are making an offer today to the 2d grade teacher. We are interviewing for science and Spanish.

#### **Committee Chairs**

Kelly Wehrer

President	Kelly Wehrer
President-Elect	Denise Metry
Treasurer	Lara Frazier
Corresponding Secretary	Ali Pilcher

Recording Secretary	Kara Niles
Historian	Aparna Jotwani
Parliamentarian	Paige Castaneda
100% PTO	Ann Heikkinen
100% PTO	David Heikkinen
100% PTO	Rena Holman Murti
100% PTO	Prashant Murti
100% PTO	Kimberly Watson
100% PTO	John Watson
Auction	Liz Singleton
Auction	Julie McFarland
Auction	Meredith Beebe
Auction	Valerie Tompson
Book Fair	Denise Metry
Box Tops/Rewards	Amy McCallum
Box Tops/Rewards	Vanessa Engel
Buildings	Christine Robins
Carnival	Catalina Pastore
Carnival	Eman El Shareif
Community Night	Emanuela Corradino
Community Night	Paula Zurcher
Community Partnerships	Alyson Rooney
Dads Club - PADRES	John Thornton
Directory	Camille Jenman
Fifth Grade	Alyson Rooney
Fifth Grade	Rachel Carleton
Front Page	Tom Fowler
Grounds	Virginia Carmerlo

HISD Liaison	Carmen Pratt
International Festival	Vanessa Wegner
International Festival	Helen Belgrove
International Garden	Lori Bullwinkel
Library	Phaedra Harbaugh
Library	Maureen Glancy
Lunchroom	Camille Jenman

## Carnival

Jenny Johnson

I made a FB page for our Carnival. I will be publicizing. Please like our page.

Carnival is May 17 10-2 pm. We will start around 8 am. We'd love your help. We are short a lot of people to work Carnival. We need people to work booths! Please work for each of your kids. You can sit in a Chair while your kids run around.

We have a lot of fun things - the camel has been retired, but we have a water ball, pinot palette, metal guild, chalktrail bicycles.

I have small jobs - recycling, hot dogs warm, making signs if you are creative. Our meeting is May 9<sup>th</sup> at 8 am. May 12<sup>th</sup> before Carnival we will have a sorting party - to distribute tshirts for classrooms.

Q - Can you send something to room parents to have them push the sign up?

Esther - I need help with the sweet shop. Drop them off on Friday, if you can pack them that's wonderful but if you are too busy, I will pack them for you.

Next week we meet from 11-4pm every day - we are sewing 110 costumes for Aladdin.

## Teacher Appreciation

Jennifer Thornton

Next week is Teacher Appreciation - hopefully you've heard from your room parent. We are not telling you to do anything specific. This money does not come from class funds. The committee takes care of it for the whole staff. Mon - cupcake, Tues, breakfast, We - LOLA

Friday -

This covers custodial, crossing guards, principals.

If you WANT to do something, you are welcome to do whatever you want. Handwritten note for teacher(s). remember - you can't be at school, its Stanford testing.

## **School Supplies**

Jennifer Thornton

I highly encourage you to do this - if you purchase by June 15, we get a 5% discount. We will also get a 10% discount for buying in bulk. We pass that discount on to you, the parents and carers.

The website is until June 25<sup>th</sup> or so. The price is not different.

The supplies end up here in Aug, then the school supplies fairies come and sort. If you order in advance, it helps those who are distributing the supplies.

This is not a fundraiser, it's a service for the parents

## **Audit Committee - Call for Volunteers Courtney Tardy**

I need one board member and two general PTO parents to help us do the audit of the books. The committee looks over the books for a report at the beginning of the year.

If you have a background in finance, or can balance your checkbook and are detail-oriented, we need your help. The whole job can get done in one afternoon.

We need to wrap up this committee by the end of the year

## **Year End Thank You**

Courtney Tardy

We want to particularly thank our 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents. Please stand up (Applause).

I want to particularly thank our elected officials, namely Kelly,

Thanks to our Board - great fundraising and nothing has gone wrong. We've done a great job!

Kelly - We have a present for Courtney.

## **Adjourn**

Kara Niles

We are adjourned at 8:55 am.